



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2651/\$

In re application of

April 10, 2004

H. Asano et al.

Group Art Unit: 2651

Examiner: Natalia Figueroa

Serial No.: 10/040,115

Filed: 01/03/2002

Attorney Docket: ARC92001005US1

Confirmation No.: 8776

#5  
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9-13-04

Title: **MULTIPLE LEVEL (ML), INTEGRATED SECTOR FORMAT (ISF), ERROR CORRECTION CODE (ECC) ENCODING AND DECODING PROCESSES FOR DATA STORAGE OR COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND SYSTEMS**

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 23 2004  
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

This paper is in response to an Office Action (paper 3) for the above-identified application mailed on December 10, 2003. Claims 1-9 are pending. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7, and 9 are believed to be rejected as unpatentable over combinations of Tetsuya (EPO 0481752A1), Takashi (USPN 6519715), Lee (USPN 6405342), Ofer (USPN 5719885), and Hashimoto (USPN 5864440), and claims 3, 6, and 8 are believed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, though some clarification is needed here. Reconsideration of the rejections in view of Applicants' remarks below is respectfully requested.

**ARC920010055US1**